

**Condition of the Public Press in France.**  
A table headed "Three Months of Liberal Empire," and published by the Paris *Temps*, gives a good idea of the condition of the public press in France. "Announced on the 13th of January, 1867, as the crowning of the edifice of the 24 of December, the memorable law on the press is in full activity." The table shows that from the 1st of June to the 31st of August there were 41 sentences for press offenses pronounced against 58 persons, 15 condemnations to imprisonment and 49 to fine. Two of the fines were of the large amount of 10,000<sup>f</sup>, three were of 5000<sup>f</sup>, 20 ranged from 500<sup>f</sup> to 2000<sup>f</sup>. Only one paper, the *Opinion Nationale*, was acquitted. Seven, regrettably in the first instance, were condemned by the higher court to which the Government appealed. Three papers were suppressed altogether, and of several the sale in the streets was forbidden. Now, there is nothing more absurd than stopping the sale of a paper in the streets and kiosks.

The Paris *Figaro* recently published a letter to M. Pinard, Minister of the Interior, from its editor, M. de Villemessant. It included a long list of the distribution of the *Figaro* of the 1st of September, of the number of copies taken by one hundred and sixty book-sellers, whose names were given, in all parts of Paris; and it showed the sale in the city to be 24,800 copies, or 1500 more than before it was excluded from street sales. Besides this, monthly subscriptions were coming in at the rate of three hundred a day, having proved him a gatherer by an intercession intended to injure him, M. de Villemessant proceeded to appeal to the Minister on behalf of the real sufferers, the few hundred women who have been in the habit of making from three to six francs a day by the sale of the *Figaro* at their kiosks or stalls.

Rochefort, who wrote the little weekly pamphlet, has left the country to avoid twenty-seven months' imprisonment and twenty thousand francs fine, the aggregate of his several sentences. The *Figaro* announces that he sent the manuscript of another number from Brussels to his friends in Paris, but a printer could not be found. It appeared in Brussels. It is reported that the next will appear in Amsterdam, and that he means to vary his place of publication, so as not to expose the government of any particular country to remonstrances from that of France.

The Paris correspondent of the London Times says:—

"Walking down the Boulevard Sébastopol, the other day I observed a small crowd suddenly form on the footpath, from which there presently emerged a sergeant-de-hôtel, holding in one hand a quantity of printed broadsides, and grasping with the other the arm of a hulking fellow clad in soiled canvas and of very unpossessing aspect. The prisoner was going off to the guard-house; the printed papers were copies of a new poetical composition entitled 'Complaint on the Judgment and Condemnation of that good M. Henri Rochefort.' This doggerel is of considerable length, as is usual in such compositions. It ends with the following *merite*—"

"Chez-roeters, capitaines,  
Bourgeois, marchands de bâtonnages,  
Vous tous qu'avez l'ambition  
De vous faire journalistes,  
Jesperez qu'apres m'avoir vu  
Personne ne vous dira plus!"

"Capitalists, sausages vendors,  
Booksellers, stationers, tanners, menders,  
A few feet apiece to the life  
For the newspapers to write,  
After reading this, I think  
You will drop the pen and ink."

"Among the many imitations of the *Lanterne* that crowd the booksellers' windows there is one, called the *Lanterne Impériale*, which hits pretty hard at the Parisians, and does not spare their levity and badinage. It says:—

"What is it at the end of eighteen years that you begin to groan and complain, that you dare to confess you have made a mistake? Non sense! You made a mistake yesterday, and you will make another to-morrow. You will always make mistakes. You burn the Tuilleries, and you think you are making a revolution; you sing the Marseillaise, and you believe you are menacing; you ruminate, and you imagine yourselves to be thinking; you recede, and you fancy you are advancing; you stupefy yourselves, and you think that you live! Ah! he, too, was your idol—that man who understood that it was necessary first to charm you and afterward to rule you like a spoiled child, with a slice of dry bread and rod in hand. Now you attach yourselves to all that disfigures him you used to adore."

A Literary Festival in France.

An international literary festival is about to be held at St. Rémy, in Provence, "in honor of the poets and literary celebrities of Spain and France." The origin of the festival is the reception accorded to Mistral, the Provençal poet (author, among other works, of "Mireille," the poem on which M. Gounod's opera of the same name is founded), when, a few months since, he visited Spain. Mistral, and several Provençal poets in his name, now invite to St. Rémy the following Spanish authors:—1. Don Victor Balaguer, of Barcelona, "author of history of Catalonia, in 5 vols. 8<sup>vo</sup>; poet and orator, especially known by his Catalonian drama, 'Don Joan de Serralonga,' to be brought out this winter in Paris. 2. Don Antonio de Torres, editor of the *Paro Biscayense*, poet and publicist. 3. Don Albert de Quintana, of the town of Torrelles, poet, orator, and agronomist, deputy of the province of Biron, and author of a report on the Universal Exhibition of 1867. 4. Don Manuel Adelgon, novelist and justice of the peace. 5. Don Eduard Vidal, one of the first writers for the Catalonian stage. 6. Don Jose Zorrilla, lyrical and dramatic author. The list of French poets to be invited is not yet complete; but Timothée, of "Le Petit Journal," has been asked. He expresses doubt as to whether he shall accept, alleging as a reason for refusing that if he once went to Provence he is not at all sure that he should like to come back. The festival is to begin with a "procession of guests" who will be received at the Hôtel de Ville by the Mayor; and the poets are to be afterwards entertained with music, dancing, fireworks, and a ball-fight à la Provençale—that is to say, without bloodshed. This last exhibition, however agreeable to the bulls, will scarcely, we should think, please the Spanish poets.

In the letters of invitation addressed to the French journalists it is announced that "les plus jolies Provençales se préparent à danser les premières quadrilles avec les poètes et les journaliste de Paris," or, in the vernacular, that the prettiest girls of Provence are prepared to dance the first quadrilles with the poets and journalists of Paris.

A Hundred Years in Prison.

A certain housebreaker was condemned in the latter part of the last century in France, and under peculiar circumstances, to a hundred years in the galley, and, strange to relate, this man recently made his appearance in his own native province at the advanced age of one hundred and twenty years, being about twenty years of age when he entered the galleys which condemned him to such dreadful punishment. It is difficult to conceive what the feeling must have been when returned, as soon as emancipated from the shackles which had enthralled him for a century, to breathe once more the cherished

air of the scenes of his infancy. Bourg, in the department of Ain, was his native home, but he had so changed the aspect of the whole place where he recognized it only by the church of St. Paul, which was the only thing which had undergone no alteration. He had accomplished over laws, bondage, man, time, everything. Not a relation had he left, not a single being could be half in acquaintance, yet he was not without experiencing the French pay old age. For himself, he had forgotten everything connected with his early youth; even all recollection of the crime for which he suffered was lost, or, if at all remembered, was a dreamy vision confounded with a thousand other dreamy visions of days long gone by. His family and connections for several generations were dead; himself a living proof of the clemency of Heaven, he had nothing to regret, perhaps, the very iron which had been familiar to him, and half wishing himself again among the wretched and suffering beings with whom his fate had been so long associated—well might he be called the patriarch of burglars.

—Professor Rolleston, of England, believes in both Christianity and Darwinism, reconciling the two.

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At 7 A. M. for Reading, leaves Philadelphia at 10 A. M. for Reading, Allentown, and points north.

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